

Replacement Sheet

Application No. 10/565,179

HIGH SPEED AIRSHIP

Abstract

A high speed airship (10) with multiple inflatable chambers (11) arranged in a multiplicity of tubular clusters to enhance structural strength and to create a centrally located passenger or cargo tunnel (18) to increase passenger safety. A cone shaped rigid frame front cover (14) attached to the front end of the airship, and a cone shaped rigid frame aft cover (15) attached to the aft end of the airship, designed to reduce aerodynamic drag, to achieve high speed, and to be able to land on water. Specially designed multiple sections with multiple inner tubes to increase safety. Helium recovery system to control balance buoyancy and pressure-height without the loss of helium and to eliminate the use of ballast, which otherwise would reduce lifting capacity. Independently rotateable propulsion units (22) for rapid balance and buoyancy control in emergency and to provide high maneuverability to eliminate the need of ground crew.